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LABOR SITUATION SERIOUS.

which they are engaged.

The scarcity of labor has existed to a greater or less extent for the past eighteen months, but has varied in its seriousness, having at times been acute and at other times so small as to be almost neglible. When the exedus of negroes first began in the fall of 1916 most of the blacks emigrated to Northern and Western cities, and the race riot which took place in East St. Louis last year served to effectually stop emigration in that direction. Since work on the government nitrate plant at Sheffield began a short time ago, however, many negroes have left for that city, and the lack of labor is again being acutely felt.

been here to secure workers for the nitrate plant at have failed, and Lowndes ounty, which is spendidly Sheffield have made them promises that could not be fulfilled, some of the agents, it is said, having told men who left here with them that by accepting work at the nitrate plant they would automatically secure exemption should be allowed to exist no longer, and the Commer from the provisions of the military draft. The Com- cial sincerely hopes that the Lowndes County Duroc mercial is reliably informed that this statement is un- Jersey Breeders' Association, which was recently organture; but, on the other hand, we have information to ized here, will soon inaugurate a movement that will reofficials and produced papers issued by the federal govinterfere with his activities.

and the Commercial is impressed with the thought that it rapid strides which Mississippi has made in the butter would be a good idea for local merchants, manufacturers making industry, the Birmingham Age-Herald, in a re and farmers to join in a public meeting with the view of cent editorial, says: formulating some plan whereby this problem may be satisfactorily solved. We recall the fact that Birmingham faced a similar problem several months ago, and it was finally solved, we think, by various civic bodies there, officials of which called a meeting of employers and finally secured an agreement with the labors that put an end to the exodus.

Nothing more deleteriously affects a community than a scarcity of labor, and the Commercial sincerely hopes that some plan which will satisfactorily solve the problem which now confronts local employers can soon

Bill Rit Will Rid Rit

REDUCE COTTON ACREAGE.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the high price which cotton is now bringing will not induce farmers in Lowndes county or anywhere else in the South to plant too freely of the staple this season, as there are numerous reasons why the acreage should be reduced

The principal reason why the amount of cotton planted should be smaller this season than ever before lies in the fact that every acre devoted to the cultivation of the staple takes just that much from the land close at hand, we are led to wonder if officials of the available for the production of foodstuffs, and one of government will announce "beatless days" for carpets,

ernment is to secure a sufficient amount of wheat and O other food products to provide for the needs of the American expeditionary forces and the French and English soldiers who are co-operating with them in titanic struggle to subdue the forces of the Kaiser.

Napoleon, who was perhaps one of the greatest military geniuses that the world ever produced, is said \$3.00 to have been exceedingly careful to see that his soldiers were well fed, having once made a remark to the effect army, for luck against Boches. that "an army fights on its belly," and experiences which America and her allies have recently undergone serve to forcefully emphasize the truth of the statement. It has been conclusively demonstrated that the men in France can not withstand the hardships of battle unless amply Queen" and a fortune in three years. supplied with wholesome food, and as both French and English supplies have been practically exhausted it has become necessary for America to keep a continuous stream of provisions pouring into the commissary de-

A limited cotton acreage is to be desired not only from a patriotic standpoint but also as a good business policy; for if the country should produce a large cotton crop the market would naturally decline, and with the decrease in food products, which would naturally decline, and with the decrease in food products, which would be another result of the overproduction of cotton, the cost of living would surely advance even higher than it now is, thus forcing farmers to sell their cotton at low figures and buy the necessities of life at inflated diers like it," writes commander of a

It is therefore a duty which every farmer owes not only to his country but himself and his family to plant There is much complaint about a scarcity of labor a minimum amount of cotton and devote his energies not only in Columbus but in contiguous agricultural dis- principally to the production of foodstuffs. The whole tricts, and merchants, manufacturers and farmers are world is cryingfor food, and as America is the most imexperiencing considerable difficulty in securing suffi- portant nation on the globe that has not had her fields cient help to satisfactorily carry on the activities in devastated by the ravages of war it is up to her people to supply the demand. The world can not exist without victuals,, and experts declare that unless the production shop, lawyer yet complains to the of edibles is greatly increased this year the entire universe may soon face a famine.

MISSISSIPPI LEADS.

According to recently published statistics, Missis sippi made greater progress in the butter making industry last year than any other southern state, and our only regret is that local achievements in this direction were by no means as great as in some other sections of the

During the past few years repeated efforts to estab-It is currently rumored that labor agents who have lish a creamery in Columbus have been made; but all adapted to cattle raising and which does each year raise a large number of milch cows, still is without an industry of this character within her borders. Such a condition

Butter, like every other comestible, has advanced ernment which convinced them that they had no right to tremendously in value during the past few years, and that a creamery would prove a paying venture is there The entire problem seems to be quite a knotty one, fore a foregone conclusion. Commenting upon the

> Mississippi's butter production last year amounted to three million pounds, and the United States agricultural department is co-operating with the dairy interests in that state with a view to increasing the production to four million pounds this

> Only a few years ago Mississippi was as backward in creamery industry as its neighbors, that is to say butter making on a commercial basis was a negligible quantity. But after it got a start and the state became tick free Mississippi creamey butter was in brisk demand in various markets, including Birmingham. Today Mississippi dairymen are as progressive in their methods as those of the west or any other section of the country, and are reaping

We don't know who would win a popularity contest between government officials, but we feel safe n venturing the prediction that it would be neither Fuel Director Garfield or Secretary of War Baker.

Now that the time for spring house-cleaning is so

Accident and Health Insurance

makes certain your income in the event of accident or illness. Can you afford to go without this protection? A lengthened term of disability might seriously inconvenience you, unless you have a disability policy. Have you one of these policies? If not, get one now

JESSE P. WOODWARD General Agent Maryland Assurance Corporation

Phone 531

Odd Fellows Building Columbus, Miss.

Pocketful at a time, Boston man stole 14,000 nickels from an auto-

Rabbits left hind foot to be given every Kansas negro drafted into the

Goat flesh not meat, Food Administration rules, and may be eaten on meatless days.

Two red snails costing ten cents made Chicago woman "The Snail

To stop worrying about how to get coal, Peekskill man had himself committed to asylum and went there by himself.

Donkey, scratching back against box on telephone pole, put Colorado train despatching system out of com-

3,000-pound auto driven over har-

bor of ice to Stamford, Conn., lighthouse and back, carrying two men. Cat famine in Jersey, if bill passes to tax cats \$1 and save the birds. In six-line will, Westchester county man disposes of \$200,000 estate. "African golf has been introduced over here, and the French sol-New York negro regiment now near the front.

In three weeks 200 articles for soldiers were made by the fourteen members of the Forest Park Sew-

Won a war bride, and now soldier has named their first war baby his Liberty Bell."

Pound of cooked turkey cost him \$2 at a fashionable delicatessen Food Board.

Reindeer meat from Alaska and rabbit meat from Texas are used to offset beefless days in San Francisco. "Poor" woman arrested in Cincinnati was found to have \$3,349.16 sewed up in her clothing.-Meridian

Information Given.

To Whom it May Concern: Your attention is herewith directed to information below relative to sale of sugar, flour, advertising, and wholesale quantities of sugar which you are expected to strictly comply

Sugar Sugar should be sold in towns and cities to consumers in two to five pound quantities; to farm and rural customers in five to ten pound quantities. The "normal profit" allowed cetailers is construed to mean not exceeding one cent per pound on

Flour in towns and cities should e sold in eighth to quarter barrel quantities; in rural and farm comqunities in quarter to half barrel

Advertising

Any advertisements tending to induce consumers to increase their purchases of flour or sugar during the present National crisis are deidedly against public policy. This information has already been given you with the suggestion that the press of your state censor their advertisements. We request that you please convey this information to the

Wholesale Quantities of Sugar sugar in quantities in excess of 1,- ed. 000 pounds at a time to a retailer. the opportunity to have more sugar than is necessary for conservative distribution, as outlined in the second paragraph of this letter.

Important Notice

Flour should be sold at wholesale and retail "only" with an equal

Yours very truly, P. M. HARDING, Federal Food Administrator

LOYALTY.

gence, who has character and loyalty, knows no such restrictions, does not which not one of us will refuse, thus There are many many times in cient part of our organization.

immediately punished by death.

that harbors or tolerates it .- Fi ciated in the same destiny. delity Journal.

pany.

Ezell Clothing Company is reeiving new spring goods daily.

Pay Your Grocer Promptly

And You Will Be Helping to Win the War

Because good collections means less bookkeeping and conserves man power. They also enable your grocer to buy lower, carry a better stock, and serve you better. Customers who pay promptly are not harrassed by duns and are, therefore, in a better frame of mind to manage their own affairs and do their bit for the government. Worry is an enemy to peace-your own peace and the world's peace. Pay your grocer cash if you can; if that is not convenient settle with him on time,

Lighten Your Grocer's Delivery Burden

And you will also be conserving man power and ma-

Don't ask him to deliver things you can conveniently take home from the store. Don't keep his wagon running to your home with petty deliveries. Every unnecessary trip of that wagon means so much man power wasted, so much wear and tear on the wagon or trucka useless strain on leather and steel, a useless drain on the supply of feed and gasoline-all taken from the government's war needs.

Use a little thoughfulness. Go into your pantry and see what you need for the week, down to the pepper and salt. Make it all in one order, and have it delivered at

The burden of winning this war has been placed upon the United States. Every saving of time, labor and material, no matter how small, counts for victory. So pay your grocer promptly and ease his deliveries all you can.

Columbus Grocery Merchants

GREAT WAR.

By Rev. G. D. Parker.

against Germany, a widow in the helpless upon my bosom; that I rockcity of Pernambuco took her only ed thee in my arms and protected son (who was exempt from military thee with my love. I see in thee only service being the only son of a a man, an active nd conscious force, human, we may have often wonderwidow) to the barracks and offered resolute and energetic-a soldier. him as a volunteer to defend his The barracks now is thy home, by country. Similar heroic sacrifices country is now thy mother. are being made all over the country

Sugar should not be shipped on back character and heart, I think thy the beauty of the spirits of the knight orders, nor without a positive order mother's counsels unnecessary in errants. The more honorable the dren. Mother will go around Eastfrom the buyer. Wholesale grocers this solemn hour. Up to a few days hand that draws the sword, the er Sunday morning with a red finger should use every precaution at their ago thou wast a mere Brazilian; to- stronger and more invincible it will and a blue finger and a yellow finger command to prevent duplication of day thou art a Brazilian soldier. be. Be loyal and generous, although and a purple finger on each hand and sales which may give to a retailer Before God, who reads my heart and vigorous and inflexible. Do not use then expect the kids to believe that structing thee to be a patriot.

fications we look for in the ideal em- other love can it be compared; for all thee is just what every Brazil moth- fectionate if he didn't know the ploye. I must unhesitatingly place other love are influenced by incon-Give me a man of average intelli- and self-interest; but patriotic love Brazil claims our most sacred gift, drinking again. But even though he possesses every things, for thou wouldst not have children kissing the parent's hand, of the marriage service. other qualification and is disloyal, he been anything more than an outcast asking at the same time the parental. He may be the light of her life So high a premium is placed upon to thee the noble right to be some- way to duty and honor. My pride as out too often. Loyalty under the military code that body among men upon the earth and a patriot is a balm to my sorrow as a the soldier guilty of its violation is made thee a fellow citizen of the mother. great human family. To be my son "The barracks is thy home, the While disloyalty in business may is to belong to a small and limited fam- army thy family. God grant that not be immediately productive of evil ily bound by the ties of blood; to be thou mayest soon return to my arms; results as it is in an army where a Brazilian is to belong to a family but whatever be the time that destiny thousands or perhaps millions, of of thirty million brothers, bound to- has marked for my loneliness, I will lives are at stake, it will in the long gether by the same duties, partici- suffer without a murmur, confident run absolutely wreck any enterprise pant of the same glory, and asso- that thou wilt not return until thou

the honor of thy mother, and I have power of thy country."

thing that would threaten it.

"I see thee today with other eyes; When war was declared by Brazil I forgot that I saw thee weak and

"But to be a worthy soldier it is by the noble women and their brave not enough that thy courage and dedboys. Much has been written on the ication should be unconditionally at great world war, but I have read the service of thy beloved Brazil, nothing finer than the following let- which was our cradle and which, ter written by a Brazilian mother, please God, shall receive our mertal Julia Lopes de Almedia, to her sol- remains to be dissolved and become dier son, which I translate literally a part of the beautiful Brazilian soil. from the Portuguese. It is written No, my son, courage and love are not in the second person, which is com- enough. It is necessary that, being imperfect 48. monly used by parents speaking to a soldier, thou shouldst have a pastheir children, but never by the latter sion for honor and a clean conscience addressing their parents, when the and that thou professest the manly signed to his address. Wholesale grocers should not sell more formal third person is employ- religion of a gentleman. It is neces-"My son, to do justice to thy order that thy clean heart may have an impression on it. knows all my actions, I am able to thy force to oppress the weak and the Easter Rabbit colored the eggs. hold up my humble head, conscious never abandon the innocent; thus Some women always start just that I have fulfilled my duty as a thou wilt be a worthy soldier of a early enough to be late. Brazilian woman rearing and in- magnanimous country which never, A womans idea of affluence is to made a war except to defend its hon- have enough silverware to entertain "This love that thou owest to thy or and safeguard its liberty. An hon- company without borrowing. country, my son, ought to be—incity for sacrifice and abnegation to had rather see thee dead than that that happened 15 years ago. the love that I have for thee. Pa- thou shouldst stain thy uniform with The reason why a lot of ambitious triotic love can only be compared to a single unworthy act which would young men never get anywhere in maternal love. Every weak woman cause me to blush for shame. Thy this world is because they want to is ready to give her life for her son, uniform should clothe thy stainless start on high. Any automobilist can as every man ought to be ready to honor, as thy mother's bridal robes decipher this one for you. Over and above all the many quali- give his life for his country. To no clothed her chastity. What I say to Maybe father would be more af-

hast avenged thy country's wrongs.

"By thy birth and youthful train- "For twenty years thou hast bowing thou wast made a Brazilian sol- ed reverently before me, kissing the Before buying your new spring dier. I, thy mother, who reared and hand that fondled and directed thee, suits, hats, shoes, shirts, underwear, defended thee, now place myself un- but today it is I that bow respectfully etc., see ours. Ezell Clothing Com- der thy protection. I trust in before thee because thou art a Brazilthy power and am under thy care, ian soldier and because thou art a The honor of thy country is also small part of the courage, honor, and no doubt that thou knowest how to Uruguayana, Brazil.

BRAZILIAN MOTHERS AND THE defend it on any field against any. OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

Birmingham Age-Herald. 0000000000000000

LUKE McLUKE SAYS

Knowing that a preacher is only ed just what he exclaims when he swats his thumb with a hammer and there is no one around to hear him. Aspiration will never get you any-

thing unless you can make it produce perspiration. There is also the kind of girl who would rather have a man break the

Ten Commandments than break an engagement with her. Marriage is something that in five years will turn a perfect 3 into an

A man will always put his shoulder to the wheel when the load is con-

And a woman's heart never gets sary that thou have self-respect in so hard that a diamond can't make

People expect too much from chil-

quantity of cereal or cereals. All at deed, has to be—similar in its capa-

stancy, caprice, pleasure, jealously, to her sons in this hour in which er will tell him that he has been

and even though he has nothing else, become exhausted, but rises above all clothing our maternity with majesty, his matrimonial career when a hushe can be moulded and made an effi- the selfish interests of low human in- "The hand that blesses thee (re- band wonders who the Hek put that stincts. Love thy country above all ferring to the patriarchial custom of word "obey" in the female portion

is a constant menace to those with (pariah) if thy country had not made, blessing, which still obtains in Brazil) during the engagement. But after thee a citizen, if it had not granted does not tremble as it points out the marriage she discovers that he goes

Wood Pulp Used In Cloth Manu-

facture in Germany. Wood pulp is being manufactured into cloth in Germany, according to advices received by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

The pulp is spun into a thread and then woven into a fabric, the warp of which is linen thread. It is said to be durable and to stand washing five or six times. It is utilized for clothing of all kinds, but especially for

Bring your peas, sorghum seed and molasses to me to ship for you.